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PATENT
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In Re Patent Application Of:
Kirin K. Chada et al.

Group Art Unit: 1653

Serial No.: 08/852,666

Examiner: Devesh Srivastava

Filed: 7 May 1997

For: **HMGI PROTEINS IN CANCER AND OBESITY**Honorable Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.111**

Sir:

This Amendment and Response pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.111 is in reply to the Examiner's Action dated 28 October 1999 in the above-identified patent application in which claims 1-40 are pending, claims 1-5, 13-15, 20-22, 26-28, and 33-40 have been withdrawn subject to a restriction requirement, and claims 6-12, 16-19, 23-25 and 29-32 were rejected. A Response to this Action was originally due 23 May 2000. Applicants have petitioned, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.136(a), concurrently herewith for a one (1) month extension to extend the time for response to the Examiner's Action dated 23 May 2000 for one month from 23 August 2000 up to and including 23 September 2000 and have paid

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. SECTION 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence and any documents referred to as enclosed herewith are being transmitted, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Section 1.8, to the Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, Washington, D.C. 20231 on this 28th of September, 2000.

By Richard R Muccino 28 Sept 00
Richard R. Muccino date
Reg. No. 32,538
Attorney for Applicant(s)

Kirin K. Chada et al.
Serial No. 08/852,666
Filing Date 7 May 1997
Page 2

the required fee pursuant to 37 C.F.R. Sections 1.136(a) and 1.17. Applicants have also filed concurrently herewith a request for a patent application filing pursuant to the continuing prosecution application procedure in accord with 37 C.F.R. Section 1.53(d). Accordingly, this Response is timely filed.

Applicant requests that the Examiner consider the following Response and pass the above-identified application to issue.

Kindly amend the subject application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS

Kindly amend the claims as follows. Please cancel claims 6-12, 16-19, 23-25 and 29-32 and add claims 41-46, as set out below.

41. A method for screening candidate compounds capable of inhibiting HMGI biological activity which comprises the steps of:

(a) immobilizing a HMGI protein or a fragment thereof on a solid surface;

(b) incubating the HMGI protein with a candidate compound under conditions which promote optimal interaction; and

(c) measuring the binding affinity of the candidate compound to the HMGI protein or a fragment whereof; and

(d) determining from the binding affinity which candidate compounds inhibit the HMGI biological activity.

42. The method according to claim 41, wherein the candidate compound inhibits HMGI biological activity in an amount of at least 10%.